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would develop faster. The League of Library Commissions, therefore, passed the resolution that it would make every effort to organize library trustees in every state. This

resolution is to be sent to every state library association and to all library commissions.

ANNA MAY PRICE,
Secretary.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

The thirteenth annual convention of the Special Libraries Association was opened by a Special Libraries luncheon served at noon in the auditorium of the Detroit Board of Commerce. Approximately three hundred librarians sat down at group tables, each table being presided over by a member of the local Acquaintance Committee, of which Christine H. Haller, librarian of the Detroit Board of Commerce, was chairman.

First General Meeting

As dessert was being served the president rapped for order and then called upon Adam Strohm, librarian of the Detroit Public Library. Mr. Strohm extended cordial greetings to the members of the Special Libraries Association. In the course of his remarks Mr. Strohm stated that in his belief special librarians have a peculiar opportunity of presenting to business men the possibilities of library work and to spread an understanding of the influence of libraries generally.

Harvey J. Campbell, secretary of the Detroit Board of Commerce, welcomed special librarians to Detroit, and conveyed also the greeting of Harold Emmons, president of the Board, who was unable to be present for the occasion. Mr. Campbell proved himself a talented and humorous speaker and told many interesting anecdotes showing the value and importance of fact information in business as supplied by the special librarian.

At the termination of Mr. Campbell's address the luncheon meeting was declared over and the first general session of the convention was called to order. Mr. Hyde took the chair and introduced John A. Russell, editor of the *Michigan Manufacturer*, member of the Detroit Library Board, and former president of the Detroit Board of Commerce. Mr. Russell presented a most interesting address in which he stressed the practical value of special library work, with particular reference to foreign trade ex-

tension. In this connection he told of plans for the development of a special library along these lines at the University of Detroit.

First Business Meeting

The annual business meeting of the Association was opened at 3 o'clock by the president who spoke for a few moments only, stating that his annual address would be published in the form of an article on "The Economic Value of Library Service." O. Louise Evans, secretary-treasurer, reported considerable gains in membership, the total now being in the vicinity of 800. Alfred B. Lindsay, assistant secretary-treasurer, reported a treasury balance in excess of \$1,000 as of June first. Margaret Reynolds, chairman of the Publicity Committee, reported an exceptional volume of Association publicity during the year, the total publicity on the *Special libraries directory* alone being more than 330 column-inches.

Adelaide R. Hasse, editor of *Special Libraries* made an interesting report, outlining the progress made during the year and calling upon the members for their continued support and co-operation. Ruth G. Nichols, chairman of the Committee on Methods, told of the progress made thus far and thanked members for the interest which was being shown in this work. The president, in the absence of Estelle L. Liebmann, chairman, called attention to the untiring efforts of the Employment Committee; he spoke also of the Membership Committee, temporarily without a chairman.

Lewis A. Armistead presented an excellent report on the work of the Committee on Trade Catalogs of which he is chairman. Herbert O. Brigham also presented a carefully drawn report for the Committee on Commercial Information Services of which he is chairman. In the absence of H. H. B. Meyer, chairman, the president told of the interesting activities of the Committee on Co-operation with the Department

of Commerce which culminated in the publication of the Committee's report under the title *Commercial libraries and the Department of Commerce*. The president told of the very cordial reception of this report and read the following letter of acknowledgment from the Hon. Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce:

My dear Mr. Hyde:

Your printed report *Commercial libraries and the Department of Commerce* is a very pleasant evidence of your spirit of support and co-operation with this Department. Please extend my thanks to the members of the Committee and my assurance that their replies to questions on how this Department can help commercial libraries are receiving our careful consideration.

As a first step in closer relations, I would suggest that the Special Libraries be placed upon our mailing list for news releases and the commercial page of this Department. At your convenience we will be glad to receive names of those libraries properly included in this special service.

Yours faithfully,

HERBERT HOOVER.

The report of this Committee was followed by the further announcement that Dr. John M. Gries, chief of the Division of Building and Housing, would address the second general session of the convention, as a representative of Mr. Hoover and the Department of Commerce.

Richard H. Johnston, chairman of the Committee on Nominations, next made his report. The officers nominated for the ensuing year were as follows:

Rebecca B. Rankin, president.

Lewis A. Armistead, first vice-president.

Alta B. Claflin, second vice-president.

Alfred B. Lindsay, secretary-treasurer.

Nelson W. McCombs, assistant secretary-treasurer.

Bertha V. Hartzell, executive board.

Louise Keller, executive board.

Action on this report was held over until the second business meeting scheduled for Friday afternoon.

After motion duly made and seconded, a Committee on Resolutions was appointed consisting of D. N. Handy, chairman; R. H. Johnston and Alfred B. Lindsay. R. H. Johnston then presented a resolution on certification, which resolution, after some discussion was referred to a committee, con-

sisting of D. N. Handy, Catherine Van Dyne and Rebecca B. Rankin, which committee was instructed to report at the second business session.

First Group Meeting

THE PERSONALITY OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARIAN was the subject of this meeting which was presided over by Frances S. Cox. Miss Cox opened her meeting with an able presentation of the various aspects of personality in library service and then called upon Elsie L. Baechtold. Miss Baechtold stated the outstanding qualifications of the special librarian as being courage, stick-to-itiveness, anticipation, vision, tact, intuition and sympathy with job. Margaret Reynolds, who next spoke, emphasized the importance of adaptability and enthusiasm in special library work. O. Louise Evans told a number of anecdotes showing the importance of the personal element. H. H. B. Meyer stressed the three c's—character, culture, and clarity (of expression). George A. Deveneau explained certain tests which might be applicable in special library work.

Second General Meeting

Ward Gavett, of R. E. Polk and Company, the first speaker, pointed out the importance of library service in solving business problems of distribution of commodities. In this connection he discussed city directories and told of the considerable number of directory libraries now being developed in a large number of American cities. He stated that modern business firms are analyzing the market for their goods and that such investigations can be made increasingly effective by properly directed library service.

John M. Gries, chief of the Division of Building and Housing of the United States Department of Commerce, paid tribute to the increasing effectiveness of library service in America, in the second address of this meeting. Dr. Gries discussed in general the work of the Department of Commerce and, more specifically, the work of his Division. He stated that the work of the Department is based upon facts and that, in his belief, the special library could be of real assistance in helping to locate facts and in acting as local distributor of the Commerce Department's data and information.

In the absence of A. E. White, director of engineering research of the University of Michigan, the third speaker, his paper on LIBRARY AND INDUSTRY was read by Edith Thomas. Mr. White stated that the field of industrial library service had hardly been scratched and that there is need of "selling" high-grade technical library service to industrial establishments.

Second Group Meeting

J. H. Friedel, chairman of the meeting to discuss THE TRAINING OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARIAN was unable to be present and so Carlos C. Houghton acted in his place. Upon request, before proceeding to the regular business, Mr. Houghton told of the joint publicity program of the New York and Boston Special Libraries Associations and of the results that were being achieved. The meeting was formally opened with an interesting paper by Claribel R. Barnett on THE TRAINING OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARIAN which will be published in *Special Libraries*. Ernest J. Reece told of THE WORK OF THE LIBRARY TRAINING SCHOOLS, stating that the needs of the special librarian are now being recognized in some way by most schools. D. Ashley Hooker read a paper on WHAT A SPECIAL LIBRARIAN EXPECTS OF THOSE IN HIS LIBRARY and how employees should be trained to meet these requirements and his paper was very well received. Andrew Keogh aroused considerable discussion when he led off with a question as to the definition of special library work. Referring to the special collections at Yale University he asked whether these might not be regarded as special libraries. Rebecca B. Rankin discussed the tendency in public libraries towards well-defined special collections with central administration.

Third General Meeting

The third general session at the Statler opened with an interesting address, illustrated with lantern slides, by Francis E. Cady, research manager of the National Lamp Works of the General Electric Company, at Cleveland. Mr. Cady read an excellent paper on RESEARCH AND THE TECHNICAL LIBRARY which was enthusiastically received. This paper will be printed in full in *Special Libraries*.

Dr. Lent D. Upson, director of the Detroit Bureau of Government Research, the next speaker, discussed the need for collecting information about government and educating the public in civic affairs. He pointed out that there are many ways in which librarians can help to get facts concerning government before the public.

Third Group Meeting

Maud Carabin, group chairman, called the meeting to order in the auditorium of the 20th Century Club. The subject of the meeting was THE OBJECTIVE OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARIAN and the chairman outlined the general field to be covered. Mary B. Day emphasized three essential principles of every trained library worker: intensive study, careful planning, and rapid execution. Floyd J. Miller, director of the reference department of *The Detroit News* told something of the objective of his type of work in service to a great newspaper. Josephine B. Carson stated that the special librarian should aim to become an industrial or business engineer. Ethel A. Shields emphasized the importance of good methods in the realization of the special librarian's objective. The objective of the special librarian is "to set knowledge to work", said George A. Deveneau who stressed the importance of knowing the policies of one's firm.

The last half of the meeting was given over to reports from local special libraries associations. Jean E. Graffen presented an interesting statement on the work in Philadelphia. Professor H. E. Howe presented the report for the Boston Association and Alta B. Claflin sketched the work of the Cleveland club.

The convention was fortunate in having a delegate from the Far West in the person of Mary R. Bean, representing the Special Libraries Association of Southern California. Miss Bean gave an interesting account of the recent organization of her association. At the termination of this report, upon motion of Mr. Hyde, a resolution was passed expressing appreciation of Miss Bean's presence at the convention and congratulating the Special Libraries Association of Southern California on the effectiveness with which they have organized.

Second Business Meeting

The second business meeting was held on Friday afternoon immediately following the third general session already described, with President Hyde in the chair. Various announcements and routine reports were heard and then the special Committee on Certification, appointed at the first business meeting, presented the following:

REPORT ON CERTIFICATION

Your Committee is of the opinion that the subject of certification of librarians as proposed in the American Library Association has not sufficiently developed to warrant specific recommendations at this time.

It believes, however, that the subject is of great importance and deserving of the serious study of each of our members. To the end that this study may have for its guidance the opinion of each of our members, your Committee recommends that there be printed in an early number of *Special Libraries* a summary and bibliography of certification with a request for an expression of opinion of members on which the special libraries attitude might be based.

Respectfully submitted,
D. N. HANDY,
REBECCA B. RANKIN,
CATHERINE VAN DYNE.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions, next called for, was read by Lucius H. Cannon, librarian of the Municipal Reference Library, St. Louis, Mo. The report, as adopted, was as follows:

RESOLUTIONS

Your Committee offers the following resolutions:

First: That the Special Libraries Association in annual meeting assembled records with pleasure its appreciation of the expanding scope, definite achievements and increasing prestige which have marked the Association and its activities under the administration which has just come to a close.

Second: Acknowledging its indebtedness to the unfailing energy, deep interest and guiding hand of its president, Dorsey W. Hyde, jr., during the past two years, the Special Libraries Association takes this method of expressing its appreciation by extending to him the sincere and abiding thanks of the Association. Nor could it fail at this time to make due acknowledgement of the controlling part which he played in bringing

to successful publication the *Special Libraries directory*.

Third: The greatly increased and more arduous duties of the secretary-treasurer have been performed by the present incumbent, Miss O. Louise Evans, with industry and unfailing courtesy, and in recognition thereof the Association desires to place upon the record its approbation.

Fourth: In Miss Adelaide R. Hasse the Association possesses an editor of rare gifts of scholarship, expression and judgment whose devoted labors in connection with *Special Libraries* we heartily recommend.

Fifth: That to Miss Christine H. Haller, librarian of the Detroit Board of Commerce, and the local Acquaintance Committee of which she was chairman, are extended the thanks of the Association for the courteous attention which its members have received at their hands during its stay in the city.

Sixth: The Association expresses its sense of deep loss in the death of one of its members, Miss E. R. Oberly, librarian of the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, which occurred on November 5, 1921, at Washington, D. C., and the assurance that her scholarship, enthusiasm and fellowship will ever be remembered by all members of the Special Libraries Association who have at any time been associated with her.

D. N. HANDY, Chairman.
ALFRED B. LINDSAY.

The next business of the convention was the election of officers. After reading the list prepared by the Nominating Committee as reported at the first business meeting the retiring president spoke for several minutes describing the important service already rendered by the incoming officers and the outstanding efforts of Miss Rankin in New York City. The nominees were then duly voted upon and unanimously elected, and the chairman announced that the convention would be turned over to the incoming officers.

Rebecca B. Rankin, newly elected president, was greeted with great applause when she took the chair. After thanking the Association for the honor conferred, Miss Rankin presented a tentative program of work for the coming year which was heartily endorsed by all members present.

O. LOUISE EVANS,
Past Secretary-Treasurer.